



The Christian Home and Family (Part-3)
Overcoming Life's Challenges
Sermon Notes, Sermon Outline and Small Group Study Guide

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November 19, 2023

LIFE HAS ITS CHALLENGES

John 16:33

These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

We will face challenges in life, especially in the context of the Christian home. There could be interpersonal conflict between husband-wife, parents-children, other kinds of challenges: financial, loss of job, health, disappointments, etc.

BUILD ON THE ROCK - HEAR AND DO THE SAYINGS OF JESUS

Matthew 7:24-27

24 "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock:

25 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

26 "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand:

27 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

The Lord Jesus taught us that as we keep hearing and doing His teachings, we are building on a solid foundation. Storms will come, the winds will blow and the waves will rise – but we will stand through it all.

Here are a few Biblical and practical instructions that will help us journey through and overcome life's challenges:

STAY UNITED – A CORD WOVEN TOGETHER CANNOT BE EASILY BROKEN

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

9 Two are better than one, Because they have a good reward for their labor.

10 For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, For he has no one to help him up.



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11 Again, if two lie down together, they will keep warm; But how can one be warm alone?

12 Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

When things seem to pull you apart, as husband-wife, as parents-children, remember you are one family. You are a team.

A house divided cannot stand (Mark 3:24). So, guard against the things that would tend to divide you. Extended family (in-laws), other friendships, other hobbies, etc.

GET HELP – WE ARE PART OF A BODY AND A COMMUNITY

1 Corinthians 12:26-27

26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.

Get help as soon as possible.

At APC we have our pastoral team, life-coaching, Chrysalis counseling- several options through which you can seek for suitable help.

BE WILLING TO CHANGE – ONLY THEN WE MOVE FROM GLORY TO GLORY

2 Corinthians 3:18

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

The problem is not always with the other person or the other people.

Allow God to work in you, to see what you can change in your life: attitude, words, behavior, etc. to build your home and family.

Through wisdom a home is built. By understanding it is established (Proverbs 24:3-4). Gain the wisdom and understanding you need. Make changes to implement this wisdom and understanding so that your home can be built and established.

There may be interpersonal skills you may need to learn or refine.

There may be work-life balance that you may need to incorporate.

There may be financial stewardship skills you may need to learn.



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There may be parenting skills that you may need to acquire.

LET GO, LET GOD – THERE ARE THINGS YOU CANNOT CHANGE

Matthew 6:27

Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?

There are some things you cannot change.

You cannot change the other person. You can love them. You can be kind to them. You can show Christ to them. But you cannot forcibly change them.

Don't hold yourself responsible for the other person's (people's) choices or decisions.

Learn to rest in God. Release matters to Him.

Pray through till breakthrough.

Stay in a place of faith.

Keep your joy!

Walk in peace.

FULFILL YOUR PURPOSE – THAT IS WHAT YOU WILL GIVE ACCOUNT FOR

2 Corinthians 5:9-10

9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

While doing your best to take care of your marriage, family, and home, go about doing the things God has called you to do.

REVIEW

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GOSPEL AND SALVATION CALL



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SUPERNATURAL MINISTRY TIME

Minister as the Spirit leads



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This is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full-length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at our [sermons page](#). Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship, and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Read the following Scripture references: Matthew 7:24-27; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; 1 Corinthians 12:26-27

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

A, Consider and discuss, in the times we live in, why is it important to build our marriages, homes and families on the rock – hearing and doing the teachings of Jesus?

B, Consider some areas in which you can make changes to help lead and serve your spouse/family/home better?



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C, How do we live and work through things we cannot change, in the context of marriage, family and Christian home? Share some Biblical practices.

If time permits, each one can take a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

- 1, families to be protected and strengthened*
- 2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.*
- 3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for God's hand to guide us through the land search and acquisition process, and for finances to be more than enough to get this project done.*

Close by thanking God together.



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USEFUL RESOURCES

Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

WEEKEND SCHOOLS: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

WORLD MISSIONS: <https://apcworldmissions.org>

SERMON OUTLINE

In this sermon we consider the reality of life's challenges that any Christian marriage or family will face. We discuss a few simple Biblical practices we can adopt as we work through life's challenges. A simple message with a lot of practical input.

KEYWORDS

Christian family, Christian home, Christian marriage, children, sermon, sermons, sermon notes, sermon outline, free sermon notes, free sermon outlines, Bible study resources

REFERENCES/CITATIONS

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Thayer's Greek Definitions. Published in 1886, 1889; public domain.



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